World Bank Report on Indian Agriculture

4679. SHRI MUKUL BALAKRISHNA WASNIK:
SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the World Bank report captioned "Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities";

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made in the report on Indian Agriculture; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) (a) Yes, Sir. A country economic memorandum captioned "Agriculture – Challenges and Opportunities" covering some of the aspects of agriculture in India was prepared by World Bank in August, 1991.

(b) Some of the main recommendations concerning the agriculture sector relate to increasing overall allocations for agriculture, selective opening up of agriculture sector to the World Markets, improving the efficiency of agricultural investments, rationalising subsidies and targeting them towards deserving people, diversification of agriculture to meet the growing demands providing better incentives to farmers for crop production and revitalisation of rural banking. The Report advocates integration of Indian agriculture to the rest of the World agriculture economy and places major emphasis on market signals and privatisation as a guiding factor for promoting investments in agriculture.

(c) Some of the recommendations of the Report relating to improving the efficiency of agricultural investments are consistent with the Government of India's policies on agriculture. However integratio of Indian agriculture to the rest of the World Agricultural economy has to be selective and reciprocal. Similarly, while markets and privatisation have their role, there are certain limitations in their functioning in Indian agriculture, particularly in the case of rain–fed agriculture.

Rehabilitation to Land Oustees by CCL

4680. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the area of land acquired by the C.C.L. in the coal bearing areas of Giridih and Hazaribagh districts of Bihar;

(b) whether all the land oustees have been provided jobs and rehabilitated;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons there for; and

(d) the time by which the land oustees are likely to be provided jobs and rehabilitated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Collection of Cess by CCL and ICCL

4681. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected as cess by the Central Coalfields Ltd. and Indian Cooking Coal Ltd. from Bihar during 1989–90, 1990–91 and 1991–92 so far, year–wise;